

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 009428

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM KATHMANDU 10 JAN 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 0174

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, NP

SUBJ: CORONATION ACTIVITIES: SECURITY MEASURES

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING SECURITY MEASURES FOR THE CORONATION WAS OBTAINED IN A DISCUSSION AMONG AMBASSADOR CARGO, BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT AND MR. DUNCAN KELLY, BRITISH SECURITY ADVISOR ON LOAN TO THE NEPALESE POLICE.

2. MR. KELLY INDICATED THAT HIS PRINCIPAL ROLE HAS BEEN TO GIVE LECTURES ON SECURITY PROCEDURES AND PLANNING TO POLICE OFFICIALS DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH SECURITY FOR THE CORONATION. MR. KELLY STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE SECURITY PLANNING HAS BEEN ADEQUATE, THERE HAVE AS YET BEEN NO "DRY RUNS" OF THE ROUTES TO BE USED EITHER IN THE CORONATION PROCESSIONS OR FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOTELS AND/OR PALACE. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN NO FAMILIARIZATION VISITS TO HOTELS OR EMBASSY RESIDENCES FOR SITS SECURITY. ALTHOUGH THERE IS TO BE A COMBINED CENTRAL CONTROL UNIT OF ARMY AND POLICE, WITH RADIO CONTACT (WALKIE TALKIES) TO ROVING SECURITY UNITS, THERE HAS NOT TO MR. KELLY'S KNOWLEDGE BEEN ANY CONTACT THUS FAR BETWEEN THE ARMY AND POLICE CONCERNING COORDINATION OF CORONATION SECURITY.

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3. THE SCURITY OPERATION WILL BE A COMBINED ARMY-POLICE RESPONSIBILITY WITH THE POLICE HANDLING SECURITY AT HOTELS AND EMBASSY RESIDENCES, AND THE ARMY HANDLING AIRPORT SECURITY. A COMBINED ARMY-POLICE FORCE WILL HANDLE SECURITY FOR THE PROCESSION FROM THE PALACE TO HANUMAN DHOKA (FOR CONRONATION CEREMONY) AND THENCE TO TUNDIKHEL PARK WHERE POPULACE WILL GREET THE KING.

4. SOME SECURITY MEASURES ALONG THE PROCESSION ROUTE HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAKEN. ALL HOUSES AND SHOPS HAVE BEEN CHECKED AND THEIR OCCUPANTS IDENTIFIED. A DAY OR TWO BEFORE THE CORONATION, THERE WILL BE A SECOND CHECK OF ALL THE HOUSES AND SHOPS TO ENSURE THAT NO NEW PERSONS HAVE MOVED INTO THESE PLACES. ON THE DAY OF THE CORONATION, THERE WILL BE A FINAL CHECK OF ALL THE HOUSES AND SHOPS TO ENSURE THAT NO NEW PERSONS HAVE MOVED INTO THESE PLACES. ON THE DAY OF THE CORONATION, SECURITY FORCES WILL BE IN THE HOUSES AND SHOPS, AND ON THE ROOFTOPS OVERLOOKING THE PROCESSION. PLAINCLOTHES DETECTIVES WILL MINGLE WITH THE ONLOOKERS, AND POLICE/ARMY UNITS WILL FORM A PERIMETER GUARD FORCE A BLOCK OR TWO AWAY SURROUNDING THE AREA.

5. AIRPORT SECURITY: THERE WILL BE FOUR CORDONS SURROUNDING AIRPORT: FIRST CORDON WILL BE LOCATED AROUND AREAS WHERE AIRCRAFT CARRYING VIPS WILL BE RECEIVED; A SECOND CORDON AROUND AIRPORT BUILDING; A THIRD CORDON AROUND AIRPORT PARIMETER, AND A FOURTH CORDON AS AN ANTIMISSILE CORDON, APPROXIMATELY 200 YARDS AROUND THIRD CORDON.

6. HEADS OF DELEGATIONS WILL BE ASSIGNED A LIAISON OFFICER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AS WELL AS A SECURITY LIAISON OFFICER FROM THE POLICE.

7. JOURNALISTS INVITED TO THE CORONATION ARE TO BE GIVEN ROSETTE BADGES WITH THEIR PHOTOGRAPH AND DESCRIPTION AS IDENTIFY CARDS. THOSE JOURNALISTS INVITED INTO THE PRESS SECTION AT HANUMAN DHOKA WILL WEAR RED RESETTE BADGES; THOSE WHO REMAIN OUTSIDE WILL WEAR BLUE ROSETTE BADGES.

8. THE GON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL HAS INFORMED US THAT OVER 30 COUNTRIES HAVE NOT YET PRODUCED NAMES OF OFFICIALS NOR SIZE OF CORONATION DELEGATIONS. THIS LACK HAS MADE PLANNING VERY DIFFICULT.

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CULT FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND FOR THE SECURITY FORCES. HE HAS ASKED ALL MISSIONS (INCLUDING OUR OWN) TO FURNISH THIS INFORMATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WITH THIS SECURITY NEED IN MIND, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S PROVIDING FOR PLANNING PURPOSES THE NUMBER OF PERSONS THAT MAY BE EXPECTED IN THE DELEGATION. QUANTON UNQUOTE
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